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(54) Title: DEVICE, SYSTEM, AND METHOD FOR DETECTING AND LOCALIZING OBSTRUCTION WITHIN A BLOOD VESSEL

(57) Abstract: The present invention is of system, device, and method for detecting and localizing obstruction in a blood vessel. More particularly, the present invention is of a balloon catheter having an expandable balloon which comprises a plurality of strain gauges operable to report relative degrees of expansion of local portions of a wall of the expandable balloon. Incomplete expansion of a local portion of the balloon, under common pressure within the balloon, indicates presence of an obstruction, such as a region of plaque, within the blood vessel.

WO 2004/062525 A2